

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An X-ray CT scanner comprising:

a gantry for collecting projection data about
a patient;

5 a reconstruction portion for reconstructing
multislice image data or volumetric image data from
said projection data at a given matrix size;

a storage portion for storing said reconstructed
image data;

10 an input portion for entering a user's instruction
regarding magnification or demagnification of image;
and

an image processing portion for converting the
matrix size of said stored image data into a matrix
15 size corresponding to said user's instruction and
varying an image slice thickness of said storage image
data into an image slice thickness corresponding to
said user's instruction.

2. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 1, wherein the
20 matrix size corresponding to said user's instruction is
equal to or lower than the matrix size of said stored
image data.

3. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 1, wherein the
image slice thickness corresponding to said user's
25 instruction is equal to or greater than the image slice
thickness of said stored image data.

4. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 1, wherein said

image processing portion enhances high-frequency components of said stored image data according to said user's instruction.

5 5. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 4, wherein said
image processing portion enhances said high-frequency
components relatively weakly when a user's instruction
corresponding to a relatively high image magnification
factor is entered and enhances said high-frequency
components relatively strongly when a user's
10 instruction corresponding to a relatively low image
magnification factor is entered.

 6. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 1, wherein
said image processing portion sets said image slice
thickness to a relatively small value when a user's
15 instruction corresponding to a relatively high image
magnification factor is entered and sets said image
slice thickness to a relatively large value when
a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively low
image magnification factor is entered.

20 7. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 1, wherein said
image processing portion sets the number of slices
in said image data to a relatively small number when
a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively high
image magnification factor is entered and sets said
25 number of slices to a relatively large number when
a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively low
image magnification factor is entered.

8. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 7, wherein said image processing portion sets the number of slices to 1 when a user's instruction corresponding to an image magnification factor of unity is entered.

5 9. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 1, wherein said image processing portion maintains the matrix size of said stored image data when a user's instruction corresponding to an image magnification factor of unity is entered.

10 10. The X-ray CT scanner of claim 1, wherein a numerical value indicative of an image magnification factor is entered or plural buttons corresponding to plural image magnification factors are selectively clicked as said user's instruction.

15 11. An image processor comprising:

 a storage portion for storing multislice image data or volumetric image data about a patient;

 an input portion for entering a user's instruction regarding magnification or demagnification of image;

20 and

 an image processing portion for converting a matrix size of said stored image data into a matrix size corresponding to said user's instruction and varying an image slice thickness of said stored image data into an image slice thickness corresponding to
25 said user's instruction.

 12. The image processor of claim 11, wherein the

matrix size corresponding to said user's instruction is equal to or lower than the matrix size of said stored image data.

13. The image processor of claim 11, wherein the
5 image slice thickness corresponding to said user's instruction is equal to or greater than the image slice thickness of said stored image data.

14. The image processor of claim 11, wherein said
10 image processing portion enhances high-frequency components of said stored image data according to said user's instruction.

15. The image processor of claim 14, wherein said
15 image processing portion enhances said high-frequency components relatively weakly when a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively high image magnification factor is entered and enhances said high-frequency components relatively strongly when a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively low image magnification factor is entered.

20 16. The image processor of claim 11, wherein said image processing portion sets said image slice thickness to a relatively small value when a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively high image magnification factor is entered and sets said image
25 slice thickness to a relatively large value when a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively low image magnification factor is entered.

17. The image processor of claim 11, wherein said
image processing portion sets the number of slices of
said image data to a relatively small number when a
user's instruction corresponding to a relatively high
5 image magnification factor is entered and sets said
number of slices to a relatively large number when
a user's instruction corresponding to a relatively low
image magnification factor is entered.

18. The image processor of claim 17, wherein said
10 image processing portion sets said number of slices to
1 when a user's instruction corresponding to an image
magnification factor of unity is entered.

19. The image processor of claim 11, wherein said
image processing portion maintains the matrix size of
15 said stored image data when a user's instruction
corresponding to an image magnification factor of unity
is entered.

20. The image processor of claim 11, wherein
a numerical value indicative of an image magnification
20 factor is entered or plural buttons corresponding to
plural image magnification factors are selectively
clicked as said user's instruction.